Meetings (2)

DCI/IC 74-1140

23 September 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Clarke

SUBJECT   : ICS Planning Conference - IHC Input

25X1   1. Responding to [   ] memorandum, the attached "think piece"
presents IHC work planning, initiatives and problems.

2. The proposed scope of work of the IHC appears at Attachment 1.
This is an excerpt from my draft of a proposed letter of instructions from
the DCI to the Acting Chairman IHC. This is now pending in the IC Staff
front office. The draft is a fair current representation of the subject
matters that traditionally have been assigned to the IHC [   ]   **25X**
and that merit current serious attention.

3. The major problem facing the IHC is the legacy of the Helms era.
It has been said by one senior CIA official with intimate first hand
knowledge that if Mr. Helms was less interested in any subject than com-
puters, he did not know what it was! As a result, for the past several
years and up to 1974 when Mr. Colby's new influence began to be felt,
the story of automated information has been as follows:

   a. No community-wide initiatives, except perhaps a bare
   tolerance for COINS, in terms of effective results.

   b. A proliferation of uncoordinated actions by individual
   agencies directed toward planning for the automation of their
   own activities. But that planning has made little provision for
   orderly, cost/effective integration and interconnection of those
   separate systems. This is not only a technical problem -- it is,
   more importantly, an analytical problem. The analyst of the
   future must use electronic tools; they must be designed to meet
   his needs; and information must flow rapidly and easily through
   the community and to users.

4. Mr. Colby has made a start to address these problems, but it needs
to be shown that the DCI really intends to play a continuing focal role
relative to these expensive, complex subjects. In view of past history
of permissiveness, a DCI effort now to exert centralizing authority will
not be easy.

5. The IHC consists of two mechanisms -- the interagency committee
and the IHC support staff. The committee will only be effective on major
problems if there is a strong staff to drive its work. The following

[   ]   **25X**

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

steps are required if the IHC is to be an effective community instrumentality with respect to information handling, telecommunications and the bringing of technology to support the production and presentation of intelligence.

    a. The DCI should issue a strong letter of instructions to the committee chairman. A strong statement is needed to offset the record of past DCI permissiveness.

    b. The IHC Support Staff should be strengthened. The staff now consists of the Acting Chairman and a secretary/intelligence assistant provided from the IC Staff T/O, and 2 professionals from the DIA and NSA T/Os respectively. There is no CIA staff member, and the IC Staff complement was reduced by 2 slots last year under the influence of the Helms philosophy. There is no in-depth technical competence in ADP and telecommunications on the IHC Support Staff.

    c. External contracting funds are needed to obtain technical advice where the IHC/IC Staff must make judgments on conflicting proposals and plans sponsored by community components, and to carry out an IHC/IC Staff modest development program (e.g., CONTEXT). Most of these funds were removed from the FY-75 budget.

25X

Acting Chairman
IHC

Enclosure - Draft LOI

Distribution:
    1 - Dr. Clarke
    1 - ICS Registry ✓
    3 - IHC

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Excerpt from Draft IHC Letter   Attachment
            of Instructions   to DCI/IC
                                                       74-1140

4. <u>Tasks</u>. The program of the IHC should include attention to the

following tasks:

X1

        b. Collaborate with the R&D Council in planning a coordinated
attack on matters of mutual concern in the light of the recommen-
dations of the Chairman's report of 22 July 1974. (Report in 4th
quarter 1974.)

        c. Upon request, provide technical guidance to other USIB/IRAC
committees, IC Staff and NIOs on such subjects as computerization
of community data bases, use of common data standards, community-
wide information handling systems, computer terminal networking,
etc. (Complete survey in 4th quarter 1974.)

        d. Continue the exploratory work of [   ] SA/DCI,   25X
to survey and report on development and techniques applicable for
the presentation of intelligence data in varied formats, including
graphic and cartographic, microform, television, high resolution
video, etc. (Periodic reporting.)

        e. Provide continuing technical support to ICS/PRD in develop-
ment and implementation of interagency communication capabilities
for use by watch officers and analysts: e.g., NOIWON phone network;
Project CONTEXT for NOIAN involving conferenced text editing; the
"Meet-Me Bridge" on the grey phone system, etc.

        f. With guidance from ICS/PRD, collect data for and publish
interagency Crisis Management Communication Directory for use by
watch offices. (Produce 1st edition in 3rd quarter 1974.)

        g. Provide a continuing focal point for non-DoD intelligence
organizations' participation with the system architects in planning
development of intelligence interfaces with the DoD WWMCCS.

        h. Present for USIB/IRAC consideration a preliminary architec-
tural design and plan of action for community internetting of major
computerized intelligence information handling systems in CIA, State

-2-

and DoD, to serve intelligence analysts and users. External contracting support may be authorized by D/DCI/IC. (Status report in 2nd quarter 1975.)

    i. Imagery.

        (1) Assist COMIREX in serving as continuing focal point for information on community planning for automated Imagery information-handling and communication systems.

        (2) Acting Chairman IHC direct ad hoc group, including DIA, NPIC, COMIREX, ASD(I) and ICS, in planning for compatibility of computerized systems to support NPIC's photo interpreters and DIA's imagery-related data handling requirements. (Per exchange of correspondence between DCI and ASD(I). Commence in August 1974 and report during 4th quarter 1974.)

    j. Computer Security.

        (1) Assist USIB Security Committee in developing computer security policy for the intelligence community. (Report in 4th quarter 1974.)

        (2) In conjunction with R&D Council, report on the need to implement a community R&D program to provide adequate security safeguards for intelligence computer and telecommunication systems. Include appraisals of scope, timing and costs. (Report in 2nd quarter 1975.)

    k. As part of the government-wide standardization program, promote development and use of standard data elements and data codes, in order to facilitate the exchange of intelligence and intelligence information not only between departments and agencies engaged in foreign intelligence activities but also with users of intelligence. (This is to exclude any involvement with domestic intelligence functions from which the DCI is excluded by law.) (Report periodically to USIB on agency performance and cost/benefit aspects of this program.)

    l. Prepare and maintain a community inventory of intelligence information handling systems and substantive files, and related analytical methodologies, as a tool for analysts. (Complete in 4th quarter 1974.)

    m. Serve as a community focal point to assemble information and report to USIB on current undertakings in government, industry and the educational community relative to the development of an automated work station utilizable by intelligence analysts, bringing together rapid communications; data recall, manipulation and display; and briefing/presentation facilities. (Preliminary report in 1st quarter 1975.)

n. Maintain continuing working liaison with the community offices of research and development, and comparable facilities outside the community, concerned with study and experimental work to improve analytical methodologies, to apply automated techniques that can extend the capabilities of the individual analyst, and to make an effective transition from the reliance on 'hard copy' intelligence materials to an effective blending of man and machine capabilities for the analyst of the future.

o. Maintain continuing contact with the community Information Science Center located in the CIA Office of Training, and comparable community training facilities, in order to assist in curriculum development and to arrange joint activities furthering the introduction of automated capabilities for intelligence analysts. Co-sponsor and provide support for briefings, meetings and seminars that consider new methods and techniques of perceiving, collating, and analyzing diverse information and data.

p. Perform further specific assignments as may be directed by D/DCI/IC.

-4-